



Foster Grandparent Program

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The Foster Grandparent Program, which began in 1965, provides loving and experienced tutors and mentors to children and youth with special needs. Approximately 31,000 Foster Grandparents meet the needs of more than 260,000 young people each year. Typically working one on one, Foster Grandparents provide support in schools, hospitals, drug treatment centers, correctional institutions, and child care centers. Among other activities, they go over schoolwork, reinforce values, teach parenting skills to young mothers, and care for premature infants and children with disabilities. Foster Grandparents often maintain an ongoing, intensive relationship with their young clients for a year or longer.



FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM STATISTICS FOR 2005:

• Program Participants	31,017
• Hours Served by Foster Grandparents	30 million
• Young People Served	262,781
• Children of Prisoners Served	6,255
• Number of Projects	342
• Fiscal Year 2005 Budget	\$111.42 million
• Fiscal Year 2006 Budget	\$110.93 million

OTHER FACTS

- Foster Grandparents serve between 15 and 40 hours a week.
- 87 percent of children and youth report showing a lot or a fair amount of improvement in their academic performance since establishing a relationship with a Foster Grandparent.
- 90 percent of children and youth report showing a lot or a fair amount of improvement in their self-image since establishing a relationship with a Foster Grandparent.
- 58 percent of children and youth report showing a lot or a fair amount of improvement in their school attendance habits since establishing a relationship with a Foster Grandparent.

(Continued)

- 66 percent of children and youth report reducing risky behaviors a lot or a fair amount since establishing a relationship with a Foster Grandparent.
- 66 percent of children and youth report having kept out of trouble a lot or a fair amount since establishing a relationship with a Foster Grandparent.
- 24.6 percent of Foster Grandparent program resources are provided by non-Corporation sources.

ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS

The Foster Grandparent Program is open to income-eligible people age 60 and over. In return for their service, Foster Grandparents receive a stipend of \$2.65 an hour, accident and liability insurance and meals while on duty, reimbursement for transportation, and monthly training.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Foster Grandparent Program is part of Senior Corps, a network of national and community service programs that each year supports the engagement of nearly 500,000 Americans age 55 and older in service to meet critical needs in education, the environment, public safety, homeland security, and other areas. Senior Corps is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, which also administers AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America. The mission of the Corporation is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. Together with USA Freedom Corps, the Corporation is working to foster a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility in America. For more information, visit www.nationalservice.gov.

MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the Foster Grandparent Program, visit www.seniorcorps.gov or call 800-424-8867 or TTY 800-833-3722.

June 2006